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March 2011

UK Equine Initiative
Student Newsletter

My position as Director of the Equine Initiative is ending. It has been a rewarding experience and I am proud of all that has been accomplished. Holly Wiemers, our communications director, summarized it this way in a recent news release, "During MacLeod's three-year term as director, the Equine Initiative grew in size and scope from a program in its infancy to one that now has university-wide

participation, just over 170 undergraduate students in its degree program, as well as enhanced equine research and extension activities across many different departments and disciplines. Its mission is to discover, share and apply new knowledge that will enhance the health, performance and management of horses commensurate with the signature status of Kentucky's equine industry. The Equine Initiative includes more than 50 faculty and staff with an equine focus across eight different departments within the College of Agriculture, as well as key partnerships across UK and with important equine industry partners."



We have created a team – a broad, interdisciplinary, hard working, interactive and innovative team. The Equine Initiative is providing a catalyst for equine science at the University of Kentucky to grow and extend well beyond traditional boundaries. I am not suggesting a dilution or de-emphasis of the conventional aspects of equine science, rather a broadening of the scope of equine science to include new areas. So, in addition to animal biology and animal agriculture, we can explore both academic and applied aspects of plant science, soil science, environmental science, entomology, economics, tourism, education, communications, leadership training, architecture, engineering, law, art, human psychology, history, fashion, land management and other areas in relationship to the horse.

For students, this opens up many new and exciting options for leveraging a personal interest in horses with a viable and rewarding career plan. For the University, we can be a national and global academic leader for a major domestic animal species. For the horse, our understanding and appreciation of these amazing animals will be enhanced further and extended into new areas. The Equine Initiative has made a strong start and has a very exciting future. It is a team effort and I am privileged to be a member of the team.

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By: Dr. Jamie MacLeod

Equine Initiative News

Ed Squires Named University of Kentucky Equine Initiative Director



Ed Squires, a pioneer in equine research, has been named the University of Kentucky Equine Initiative director and Dickson Professor of Equine Science and Management beginning April 1.

Squires, a researcher at the UK Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center, takes over leadership of the initiative, an umbrella program for all things equine within UK's College of Agriculture, from James MacLeod, another successful equine researcher from the Gluck Center.

"UK's equine program is uniquely positioned to become one of the prominent equine programs in the world," Squires said. "I look forward to this new challenge and building upon the strong base developed by the previous leadership."

"Having spent more than 30 years in an equine sciences program and being involved in teaching, research and outreach has prepared me well for this position. One of my strengths is facilitating people to work together," Squires added.

Squires will split his time equally between this position and his current role as executive director of the UK Gluck Equine Research Foundation and director of advancement and industry relations. He will also continue as editor of the *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*.

Squires is widely supported for the position by UK's equine stakeholders.

"I think it is a win-win for both Gluck and the Equine Initiative. Ed was involved in the initial development of the Colorado State University equine program, and his fundraising for the Gluck Equine Research Center has been successful in the short time he has been here," said David Switzer, executive director of the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association and Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders, UK Equine Advisory Committee member and Gluck Equine Research Foundation Board member. "Anytime you can get someone with his breadth of experience, it's important to take advantage of it."

"Dr. Squires brings a proven reputation of excellence coupled with vision for teaching, research and service. That vision will be propelled by the tremendous team effort that has built a foundation for excellence in equine programming at the University of Kentucky," said Norm Luba, executive director of the North American Equine Ranching Information Council and chair of the UK Equine Advisory Committee.

Squires is a Morgantown, W.Va., native who received his bachelor's and master's degrees from West Virginia University and his doctorate in endocrinology and reproductive physiology at the University of Wisconsin. From 1976 to 2008, Squires was a professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University.

Squires is a pioneer in developing the techniques of embryo transfer. His other research areas include reproductive endocrinology of the non-pregnant and pregnant mare, hormonal regulation of the estrous cycle and preservation of stallion semen. His most recent research has centered on development of assisted reproductive techniques such as oocyte collection and transfer, oocyte maturation, in vitro fertilization, embryo freezing, superovulation and sexed semen.

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Squires' research efforts have resulted in 265 refereed publications, 254 non-refereed publications, 29 book chapters, 14 books and 118 articles. He has lectured extensively to national and international veterinary and scientific groups and horse breeders.

Squires has received numerous awards and honors for his research, including the Oliver P. Pennock Distinguished Service Award; the George Stubbs Award; Animal Physiology and Endocrinology Award; and Horse Person of the Year Award from the Colorado Horse Council. He was inducted into UK's Gluck Equine Research Foundation Equine Research Hall of Fame in 2007.

"Ed has made major contributions to reproductive science in horses that have resulted in new products on the market. He also brings a vast network of supporters from many breeds as well as many sectors of the pharmaceutical industry. Most of all, Ed likes horses and horse people," said Scott Smith, dean of the UK College of Agriculture. "He takes over the reins from the capable leadership of Jamie MacLeod and will be sharing a half-time appointment with the Gluck Equine Research Foundation. The foundation was an early catalyst for the Equine Initiative, and the initiative certainly adds breadth to the foundational science programs in the Veterinary Science Department. We are very enthusiastic about the future of equine programs at UK."

During MacLeod's three years as director, the Equine Initiative grew in size and scope from a Commonwealth Collaborative program to one with university-wide participation. The initiative includes more than 50 faculty and staff from eight departments within the college, as well as key partnerships across UK and with important stakeholders in the equine industry. More than 170 undergraduate students are in its degree program, and it offers enhanced equine research and extension activities. Its mission is to discover, share and apply new knowledge that will enhance the health, performance and management of horses commensurate with the signature status of Kentucky's equine industry.

"Serving as the first director of the Equine Initiative and Dickson Professor has been an honor. I am very proud of the scope and breadth of UK's equine programs and our ongoing commitment to collaboration and interdisciplinary teamwork," MacLeod said. "The Equine Initiative has made an encouraging start, but it is just the beginning. Our dedication to academic innovation will maintain the true spirit of 'initiative' in the Equine Initiative, and I look forward to working with Dr. Squires on this continuing vision."

Semester Academic Calendar

April

- 1-College of Agriculture scholarship deadline for currently enrolled students
- 1-19-Priority registration for 2011 summer and fall terms
- 1-Last day to withdraw from a class for academic reasons
- 15-UK academic scholarship deadline for currently enrolled students
- 21-May 6-students may change majors
- 29-Last day of classes

May

- 2-6-Finals week
- 8-Graduation
- 9-Spring grades due

Upcoming Events

March

- 31-Distinguished Industry Lecture Series, Ted Basset

April

- 8- College Scholarship Day at Keeneland
- 9-10 Spring Bay Horse Trials
- 8-28- Keeneland Spring Meet
- 16- Ag 180
- 25-UK Horse Racing Club, Inside Horse Racing: "The Derby Experience"
- 28-May 1-Rolex Kentucky Three Day Event
- 28-30- Kentucky Reining Cup

May

- 5-8 IHSA National Championships
- 6- Kentucky Oaks
- 7- Kentucky Derby
- 22- High Hope Races
- 27-29 May Daze Horse Trials

June

- 7- The 3rd Annual Equine Farm and Facilities Expo

Equine Clubs Upcoming News & Events

Dressage and Eventing Team

On March 27, the Dressage team attended an intercollegiate show at the University of Miami, Ohio. The Dressage Team will be hosting its spring show at L & N Farms on April 2-3 and six universities plan to attend.

The Eventing Team will be participating in Spring Bay Horse Trials April 9-10. Some members will be volunteering while others will be competing. The Eventing Team is also hosting a clinic with Jorge Montalvo on April 23-24 at his farm. If you are interested in participating or would like more information contact Allison Koelling: ajko223@uky.edu



Emily Mysinger competing at the University of Miami, Ohio

Saddle Seat Team



The Saddle Seat Team has had a great year so far. It was Reserve High Point Team at the Morehead State University show in October with December 2010 graduate Kate Singleton winning Senior High Point Rider. The Saddle Seat Team was High Point Team for both its hosted show in November and University of Louisville's hosted show in February. Lindsey Goetzinger, sophomore, was the Senior High Point Rider for both of these shows, and Aimee Griggs, junior, was the Junior High Point Rider for the UK show.

The riders are eagerly awaiting the final two shows of the semester, which will be held back-to-back on Sunday, April 3 at Morehead. The first show will be hosted by Eastern Kentucky University. The second show is the first intercollegiate saddle seat championship show hosted by the Intercollegiate Saddle Seat Riding Association.

Like us on Facebook!

The University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture has several equine-related Facebook pages that present the latest news and events information. Stay up-to-date with UK's horsey happenings by following their activities on these pages:

- Equine Initiative
- Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center
- Saddle Up Safely



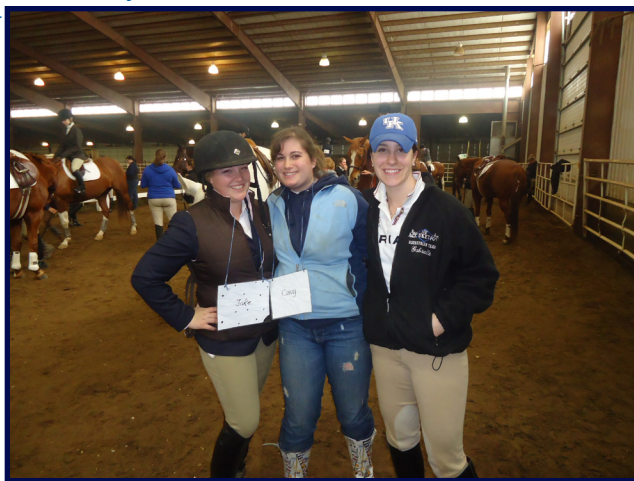
Equestrian Team Finds Success in '10-11 Show Season

By: Jen Taylor

The University of Kentucky Equestrian team has been successful this year after the final horse show before its regional competition. The UK Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) hunt seat team in particular, has dominated in its zone and is currently in first with 304 points. The second place team, the University of Cincinnati, has 197 points and the third place team, Midway College, 192.

This gap between first and second place of 107 points is the largest gap between any other teams. The other teams in the zone include; Marshall University, Morehead State University, Northern Kentucky University, University of Louisville, and Xavier University.

This year UK's hunt seat team earned High Point Team at each of the four horse shows hosted throughout the school year by Morehead State University, Midway College and UK.



From left to right :Austin Killebrew , Megan Scheer and Gigi Goble, Photo by Lynn Johnson

Over the Feb. 26-27 weekend, UK's team successfully hosted a show. UKET hunt seat coach, Michelle Zimmer, said that in the five years she has organized and hosted the show, it has never run so smoothly, and she has never had such excellent participation from team members.



From left to right: Claire Knox, Megan Day, Caitlin Swartz

At the end of the show Zimmer was rewarded with comments from other team coaches. Erin LeCompt, Morehead's coach, said that the show was incredibly well run and organized and Lynlee Foster, NKU coach, said that it is her and her teams favorite horse show to attend in the zone because of the quality of the horses they get to ride and the organization of the show.

Over the weekend of March 4, the team took 20 riders who qualified to go to the regional competition and won overall in the region. Ali Cibone won the open division class over fences and received a third on the flat. Team President Lauren Patterson won the intermediate under saddle. Jessica Brown placed fourth in novice on the flat. Natalie Heitz won the walk trot class and Stephanie Rowney placed fourth in the novice on the flat class. Those riders will go on to Zones on the April 9 and the riders that qualify there as well as the top three teams will have the chance to go to nationals May 7-8 at the Kentucky Horse Park.

The western side of the team has also seen success this year. Almost every individual on the team has won at least one class this year. The team has won numerous high point and reserve high point team titles. Its highest point rider is junior, Claire Knox. The team is the largest it has been in the past four years with 15 active members. This year also marks the largest number of riders the western team sent to the regional competition, Claire Knox will be moving on to the Zone competition.

UK Horse Racing Club announces "Inside Horse Racing: The Derby Experience"

The UK Horse Racing Club is hosting a fundraising event at 6 p.m. on April 25, 2011 at the UK Student Center Grand Ballroom. The event is called "Inside Horse Racing: The Derby Experience." The format of the event is a question and answer forum. Members of the audience will be allowed to submit questions for the speakers, who include Bill Casner of WinStar Farm, Arthur Hancock of Stone Farm, two-time Kentucky Derby winning Jockey Chris McCarron and Kentucky Derby winning trainer John Ward. This year's event is unique because every member of the panel is connected to a Kentucky Derby Winner. The event will also feature a silent auction made up of items from within the industry.

The UK Horse Racing Club has hosted two similar events in the past. Those events attracted more than 200 people each with proceeds from each event being divided between the club and a charity selected by the club. The proceeds of the Derby Experience will go towards the UK Horse Racing Club and Thoroughbred Charities of America. Thoroughbred Charities of America is a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching multiple facets of the industry. The UKHRC's goal for the event is to bring prominent figures from Thoroughbred racing to UK so that all who are able to come can have a chance to hear about their favorite horses from the people who know them best. The event is open to both the general public and students. Tickets will be sold at the door and this will also cover hors d'oeuvres during the event. For more information on the event, questions can be sent to UKHRC President Natalie Heitz at nmheit2@uky.edu or Vice-President Hub Johnson at harry-johnson@uky.edu.

Welcome Chelsea

Hello, my name is Chelsea Urhahn and I have been in the Equine Initiative office for the past month as an event planning intern, but have now moved to the equine communications role. I am a junior from Boaz, Ky., and I am an Equine Science and Management major.

I have been active in the horse industry since I was very young. I spent nine years riding American Saddlebreds, played around with rodeo for a little while, spent some time in the hunter jumper world with 4-H and finally started eventing in Pony Club. In my spare time I enjoy traveling with my horse L.E. Weber to participate in horse trials and three-day events along with scuba diving and dancing.

This past summer I completed my internship at the Kentucky Horse Park as a member of its Breeds Barn staff. During my time there, I managed and rode more than 30 horses of all breeds and disciplines. I have a very strong interest in planning equine-related events and I loved getting to work for the Park during the World Equestrian Games.

I would like to let each and every one of you know that I would love to hear from you and I care what you think! I appreciate any e-mails, phone calls, photos or information that you give me about what you're doing in the equine industry. This newsletter was created to share information with others and therefore I need you to help me out! Feel free to email me at chelsea.urhahn@uky.edu and check out the Equine Initiative on facebook or visit us online!



Student Spotlight: Catherine Germer

Catherine Germer, who recently graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in Equine Science and Management, had a more extensive internship experience than most students. For her equine internship she chose to continue the part-time job she had with Wolfram Farm. This gave her the chance to work a full year at the farm, while most students are only able to spend a summer or a semester at their internship sites.

“I did everything from breeding trips to prepping yearlings ... it was a good experience,” Germer said.

Wolfram Farm is a small Thoroughbred breeding operation in Midway, Ky. Germer spent her time cleaning stalls, turning horses out, administering medications, teasing mares and preparing the farm’s two yearlings for sale.



Germer’s horse background was mostly confined to eventers before she took a job at Wolfram. “I wanted to see what a Thoroughbred farm was really like and I got to see and do a lot more on a smaller farm,” Germer said.

She said she found the life cycle of a Thoroughbred racehorse was considerably different than the horses she had grown up working with.

“Thoroughbreds are so much more commercial ... it’s just a different focus for a different type of experience,” she said.

Germer’s supervisor, Shannon Wolfram believes an internship on a facility like his is beneficial to any student aspiring to work in the equine industry.

“They’ve got to learn practical horsemanship,” Wolfram said. A graduate of the University himself, he said that college provided him with knowledge in areas such as pasture management and nutrition that he relies upon every day but he couldn’t do his job without the practical skills he learned out on the farm.

Wolfram, who has previously taught interns from Midway College in addition to UK, said that there are a few qualities a student must have to get the most out of their time on a farm.

“There’s one thing they’ve got to have—work ethic,” Wolfram said. “I want a kid that wants to work, to get out there and learn from the ground up.”

For more information about the Equine Internship Program, contact Elizabeth LaBonty at elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu.

Job News

Churchill Downs

Churchill Downs Inc. has temporary employment available for Kentucky Derby week. The positions are located at our Twinspires.com offices on Corporate Drive in Lexington. Churchill is looking for employees to take incoming calls from its Twinspires.com customers. Paid training will be available Thursday, April 28 through Saturday, April 30. Employees will be scheduled to work various shifts Wednesday, May 4 through Saturday, May 7. The rate of pay is \$10 per hour. This is a great opportunity to gain experience with a large and expanding equine focused company. Please reply by email to Anna.Gojanovich@twinspires.com or by phone at 859-219-46529.

United States Equestrian Federation Internships

The LO dept intern will be involved with the process of recording, renewing, and archiving our LO database and administrative duties associated with the LO program.

In marketing, there is an opportunity for at least one intern to work on all facets of competition management related to NAJYRC and another opportunity for an intern to work on video editing including shooting and editing for USEF Network and other equestrian promotions, administrative tasks (filing/sorting footage, organizing video material, reviewing data, creating reports, fulfilling requests, etc.) and some writing assignments as needed (scripts, press releases).

The National Affiliates intern will learn about/work on committee structure and regulation of the different breeds/disciplines within USEF including involvement in the rule change process and other National Affiliates Department activities including preparation for USEF National Championships, evaluation of USEF youth programs and research.



2011 Equine Career Fair Wrap Up

The third annual Equine Career Fair, co-hosted by the University of Kentucky's Equine Initiative and Georgetown College's Equine Scholars program, was held March 1. Exhibitors representing 30 area equine organizations were on hand to provide career information and networking opportunities to the more than 100 high school and college student attendees. Twenty-three students in the Kentucky Equine Management Internship program attended the event, in addition to those from Asbury College, Georgetown College, Midway College, Morehead State University, and UK. Students enjoyed free pizza and drinks and gained valuable networking experience.

The next Equine Career Fair is scheduled for March 6, 2012.

UK Equine Initiative presents
Keeneland's
Ted Bassett
moderated by Dan Liebman

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DISTINGUISHED INDUSTRY LECTURE SERIES

March 31, 6:00 pm

Gluck Equine Research Center

Sponsored by

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Equine Medical Institute

Riding Opportunities

Debbie Davidson would like someone to come work her two Percheron Draft horses. They are 3 and 4 and need some work being started and handled. She is willing to pay and is very flexible with the schedule. Please call her at 502-489-1951 for more information.

Equine Club Directory

Dressage & Eventing Team

President: Jessica Wolk

jhwolk2@uky.edu

Equestrian Team

Advisor: Dr. Bob Coleman

rcoleman@uky.edu

President: Lauren Patterson

lpatterson@uky.edu

Horse Racing Club

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence

llawrenc@uky.edu

President: Natalie Heitz

nmheit2@uky.edu

Polo Club

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown

rogerbrown@uky.edu

President: Cary Campbell

cccampbell@uky.edu

Saddle Seat Team

Advisor: Dr. Lee Edgerton

lee.edgerton@uky.edu

President: Stephanie Davisson

sldavi7@uky.edu

Scholarships

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture is pleased to offer merit-based scholarships to outstanding upperclass students. Applications are available January-February of each year. Forms are available online at the College of Agriculture Student & Academic Services website at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/students/scholar.htm>. Completed applications must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 1.

Contact Us

Equine Initiative

N212 Ag Sciences Building North

Lexington, KY 40546-0091

Office: (859) 257-2226

Fax: (859) 323-8484

Email: equineinitiative@email.uky.edu

Web: www.ca.uky.edu/equine

**Director of the Equine Initiative & Dickson
Professor of Equine Science and Management:
Dr. Ed Squires**

**Associate Director for Undergraduate Education
in Equine Science & Management: Dr. Bob
Coleman**

**Equine Initiative Communications Director &
Editor: Holly Wiemers**

**Equine Lecturer and Internship Coordinator:
Elizabeth LaBonty**

**Equine Initiative Communications Intern &
Wildcat Canter co-editor: Chelsea Urhahn**

Equine Initiative Staff Support: Kevin Hagan

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